

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A system for reformatting media content, comprising:
a server operatively coupled to a network;
a first communications device operatively coupled to the network; and
a second communications device operatively coupled to the network, the second communications device receiving, from the first communications device, a device profile relating to the first communications device and sending the device profile and media content to the server,
the server reformatting the media content based on the device profile.
2. The system according to claim 1, wherein the server sends the reformatted media content to the first communications device.
3. The system according to claim 1,
wherein the server transcodes the media content from a first type of format to a second type of format,
wherein the second type of format is compatible with the first communications device.
4. The system according to claim 1, wherein the server comprises a dedicated format conversion server.

5. The system according to claim 1, wherein the first communications device requests the media content from the second communications device.

6. The system according to claim 1, wherein the first communications device can update the device profile.

7. The system according to claim 1,
wherein the first communications device is coupled to the network via a first headend,
and

wherein the second communications device is coupled to the network via a second headend.

8. The system according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the first communications device, the second communications device and the server comprises a software platform that can provide at least one of a user-interface functionality, a distributed storage functionality and a networking functionality.

9. The system according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the first communications device, the second communications device and the server comprises a software platform that can provide at least one of device registration, channel setup, program setup, management and security.

10. The system according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the first communications device, the second communications device and the server is adapted to provide at least one of a distributed networking capability, an archival functionality, a temporary storage capability, a storage manager and a digital rights manager.

11. The system according to claim 1, wherein the device profile comprises information related to media capabilities of the first communications device.

12. The system according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the first communications device and the second communications device comprises a television screen that facilitates viewing and interacting with at least one of a user interface, media, data and services available on the network.

13. A system for reformatting media content, comprising:

a server operatively coupled to a network;

a first communications device operatively coupled to the network, the first communications device sending a device profile of the first communications device to the server; and

a second communications device operatively coupled to the network, the second communications device sending media content to the server,

the server reformatting the media content based on the device profile.

14. The system according to claim 13, wherein the server reformats the media content to be compatible with the first communications device.

15. The system according to claim 13, wherein the server stores the device profile of the first communications device for use in reformatting other media content destined for the first communications device.

16. A system for reformatting media content, comprising:

a server operatively coupled to a network; and

a communications device operatively coupled to the network, the communications device receiving media content of a format that is not supported by the communications device and sending a device profile of the communications device and the received media content to the server,

the server reformatting the media content from the communications device into a format that is supported by the communications device based on the device profile.

17. The system according to claim 16, wherein the server stores the device profile of the communications device for use in reformatting other media content destined for the communications device.

18. A system for reformatting media content, comprising:

a communications device operatively coupled to a network, the communications device storing a revisable device profile of the communications device, sending the revisable device profile to the network, and receiving media content, from the network, that has been reformatted based on the device profile.

19. The system according to claim 18, further comprising:

a server operatively coupled to the network,

wherein the server reformats the media content destined for the communications device based on the revisable device profile.

20. The system according to claim 19, wherein the server stores the revisable profile for use in reformatting other media content destined for the communications device.

21. A method for reformatting media content, comprising:

receiving, by a server, a device profile of a communications device and media content destined for the communications device, the server being operatively coupled to the communications device via a network; and

reformatting, by the server, the media content based on the device profile.

22. The method according to claim 21, further comprising:

sending, by a second communications device, the device profile and the media content to the server, the second communications device being operatively coupled to the server via the network.

23. The method according to claim 21, further comprising:

sending, by the communications device, the device profile of the communications device to the server; and

sending, by a second communications device, the media content to the server, the second communications device being operatively coupled to the server via the network.

24. The method according to claim 21, wherein the reformatted media content is supported by the communications device.

25. The method according to claim 21, further comprising:

requesting, by the communications device, the media content from a second communications device.

26. The method according to claim 21, further comprising:

sending the reformatted media content to the communications device via the network.

27. The method according to claim 21, further comprising:

storing the device profile at the server for use in reformatting other media content destined for the communications device.

28. The method according to claim 21, further comprising:

sending, by the communications device, the device profile and the media content to the server.